

# THE DEMOCRAT

STOKE & FEDER  
Publishers and Proprietors.

WILL E. STONE, Editor and Manager

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as second class mail matter.

Official County Paper.

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## ADVERTISING RATES

DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS  
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Standing, by the month, per inch.....8c

LOCAL READING NOTICES  
Per line, each week.....5c  
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Standing, by the month, per inch.....8c

These rates will be deviated from only when the advertiser makes contract for liberal space for the year.  
Bills rendered monthly for all advertising not paid for in advance. Foreign advertising payable in advance.

SWORN WEEKLY CIRCULATION  
OVER TWENTY-ONE HUNDRED

THE Democratic National Convention will be held in St. Louis on July 6th.

ESCAPES from the Reno county jail are becoming almost as numerous as those from our old bastille.

TURON is to have a pop factory, expecting to use some of the gas of the local real estate men.

The long expected union has taken place in St. Louis, Max Stein has been married to Elsa de Beer.

The machine's action last winter in forcing the defeat of Ed Hock for state printer may prove to have been a costly blunder.

THE Highland bank failure seems to be a case of a "Theory and not a condition" having been found by the bank examiners.

ATTORNEY General Knox had \$500,000 to spend in lawing the trusts. He spent \$25,000. Probably could not find any trusts.

WHEN the politicians get through with Gen. Fred Grant's presidential boom, he will have two dents—one in his name and one in his boom.

THE reunion of nine young mothers each with their first born, which was recently held in Kansas City was said to have been a howling success.

THE Princeton Tiger describes a Laplander as a man who dances awkwardly and finishes by dropping into the lap of his partner's chaperon.

SOME of the mean things said about the state administration by the antis, will make good campaign material for the democrats after Bailey is re-nominated.

IN Siam you can buy a real genuine live elephant for about ten dollars. It has cost many a man a great deal more to see an imitation elephant in this country.

TOM Johnson was not strong enough to be elected Gov. of Ohio, or defeat Hanna for senator, but he has finally won his fight for three cent street car fares.

THE subsidized metropolitan press is still trying to get Cleveland into the presidential game. They are always busy selecting candidates for the Democratic party.

THE Nickerson gentlemen who decided in the negative on the question, "Resolved, that a scolding wife is more aggravating to a man than a balky horse," are doubtless candidates in the matrimonial market.

WITH the building of the Panama Canal, the Chicago drainage canal should be made a ship canal. This would put the lake ports and practically the whole Mississippi valley in direct communication by water with the Orient.

BARNEY SHEKIDAN says not one of the candidates for national committee in this state has announced for Hearst for president. What is the matter with Atwood, Jackson and Johnson? Are they out of the running?

THE Topeka papers are having entirely too much to say about Mr. Pringle failing to return the "cot" which was given him by the legislature. Coming from a city that has profited so much by the extravagance of legislatures, it is poor taste. Not only that, but why not let the tail go with the hide. One cot more or less does not matter with such legislatures as the last one was.

WHEN Gomer Davies made his speech at the Hoch meeting the other day he did not say he left the populist party because he could not boss it.

THE republican papers who are publishing the canard about Mr. Hearst trying to buy the presidency with \$2,000,000 had better examine the record of their own national committee in the last two campaigns. "Persons living in brick houses," etc.

THE state debt of Missouri has been paid off under democratic rule in that state and the taxes there this year are only 18 cents on each \$100, says the Emporia Times, while in Kansas they are 64 cents on each \$100. The machine is an expensive thing. Poor old Kansas.

IF Gov. Bailey is renominated at the Wichita convention, he will probably refer to the campaign now being made against him in the same way that he did in his inaugural address concerning the populist rule of the state, viz "An era of political insanity."

UP AT Dodge City the joints are closed, the street lights snuffed out, an occupation tax levied, the salaries of all city officers cut down more than one-half—and the Democrat of that city says the city will still be behind about \$1,500 at the end of the year, with all taxes paid, on running expenses. Dodge is rapidly deteriorating to the Larned and Dundee class.

DON'T go about the streets telling the other fellow your troubles. It's a ten to one shot the other fellow has troubles of his own. He does not care a rap about your details. If you want his advice, ask it and he will give it; otherwise you will only be causing more misery. Always be cheerful. Of course in these days of high taxes it is hard to do, but try it anyway. It is a sure cure for the blues.

THE following taken from an interview with Senator Harris will be good news to his legion of friends in the state. As long as he is a legal resident of Kansas, we are for him or governor:

"Kansas is my home and I love the state. I shall never leave my home anywhere else. My permanent residence is in Kansas. This rumor started from the fact that I am managing the affairs of the American Shorthorn Breeders' association, the headquarters of which are in Chicago. That business takes me often to Chicago and keeps me there a great deal."

WHY is it that a dozen or so, strong able-bodied men in this town who are never known to be at work, find so many victims in their skin games? It is not because "a sucker is born every minute"—that kind of "suckers" is not the kind they prey upon. In this busy land the general public looks with suspicion upon the able-bodied man without visible means of support. But such fellows live, and seem to have plenty to eat, and drink and smoke. Are you one of their victims? THE DEMOCRAT has been "touched" by some of them in the past, but we have "got em on the list" of dead beats, and contribute no more to their support or amusement.

IN company with Albert Hemker and Chas. Brandt, of West Salem, Wis., the Senior of the DEMOCRAT took in the South side wolf chase, Wednesday. The coyotes were few in hill, and the hunt was a waterhaul. A rare north-east wind that froze icicles on your whiskers, was responsible for a small turnout. The south side boys announced a round-up over the same grounds on the 27th; to start at the same hour, and line up the same excepting that the north line will form at the Santa Fe line and beat across the river.

Mrs. W. H. Rice, of Albion township, is reported stricken with apoplexy.

J. J. Winterburg expects to get his goods shipped to Excelsior Springs, Mo., by the 28th.

Notice the new Ad of W. H. Horine, Veterinary Surgeon, in this paper.

H. M. Sanderson is off on a visit with his folks at Lyndon, Osage county.

County Treasurer Soderstrom was in Hoisington Monday.

Rev. C. J. Spiers was up from Lyons Tuesday.

## Consolidation of District Schools.

Paper read by E. G. Burke at the meeting of the South Central District Association held at school No. 16, on Friday evening, Jan. 15, 1904.

Man is constantly striving to improve his condition in life; as he owes his superiority to his reasoning faculties and education, it is but natural that in his searches for improvement, that the schools should receive some of his attention.

Nothing is complete, nothing so perfect that improvement is impossible, and it is our purpose this evening to bring before our minds, the subject of School Consolidation as a possible improvement over our present system.

That something is wrong in the present system of district schools is readily conceded by any individual who has given the subject any attention whatever.

No matter how perfect the framework of a building may be if the foundation is faulty, the whole structure will be faulty.

Let us then examine the flaws of our district schools and see if we can find any place which a change might improve.

Our rural schools have an average term of six months' school. During this term some of the scholars come every day, others from the second till the fifth month, and still others come so irregular as to hardly form an acquaintance with either the teacher or fellow-scholars. Under this plan of schools, one teacher has eight grades to teach, each of which must recite at least once in each quarter of a day, making at the least calculation, thirty-two classes per day with an average of a little more than ten minutes each.

Let us now visit the city schools. Here they have a nine months' term; the pupils attend promptly and regularly, which fact alone tells us that their interest is in the school. Enough attend school that each teacher has only one or two grades to teach. The same general plan of teaching is followed from year to year and a certain amount of work must be done in each room before a pupil is promoted to the next. Longer and more thorough recitations incite in him a greater interest, and competition stimulates him to do hard earnest work.

At the age of from twelve to fifteen he has completed the eighth grade work and begins high school, and by the time he is eighteen or twenty years old he has completed that, and is prepared for a classical education.

Let us turn back and see how his cousin in the country has fared all the while.

Just as competent, just as intelligent, but without equal chances, we find him in the fifth grade at from twelve to fifteen years of age and in the cornfield at sixteen.

Of all our children in the rural schools only one out of twenty-five ever pass the eighth grade and of this number only one in ten attend college enough to finish their education equally with their city cousin.

Now what causes this vast difference between the city schools and the schools in the country?

Simply a lack of proper interest on the part of the parent in the country. Yes, you say you want your boy or girl to go to school and receive an education. Very good. But have you an interest strong enough that you will permit him to go to school every day unless prevented by something absolutely unavoidable? Not only to permit them to go but to see to it that they do go?

If this is your desire you also want them to be equal in every respect to their city cousin. Then why not have a graded school in the country to which the pupils of three or four districts or even perhaps the township attend.

The distance is easily overcome by transportation and the cost of transportation is easily saved by the difference in the expense of maintaining the two systems of schools.

The idea is not a new one. It is quite common in the eastern states and it is only a question of time until it will be here. Only thirty-five miles from here, at Lorraine, in Ellsworth county, is one which was organized in the year 1897. Four district schools were consolidated into one. They had an average attendance at the district schools of seventy scholars while the same territory with a consolidated graded school produced one hundred and fifteen pupils.

Where the pupils formerly "quitted" school in the fifth to seventh grade, they now graduate in the third year high school.

The average taxes under the old system was fifteen and one-half mills, while under the present system their levy has increased to sixteen mills which pays all expenses of the school including transportation of the pupils to and from school. Thus at the additional expense of one half mill in taxes they have increased the attendance of the school sixty-five per cent and the limit reached in their course of study has been almost doubled.

I must also add that during this time that the taxes have been raised

one-half mill that they have built a large two story four room building, and have erected a flag pole in front.

They have had the services only of the best experienced teachers, and not a parent in the district but advocates the consolidated school system as a vast improvement over the district school.

This is a government of the people, by the people and for the people. Our fathers are the government of today.

The rising generation will be the government of tomorrow. Man is not an atom in the great world of humanity. On the contrary, man has the power of shaping his own destiny. His thoughts control his actions and his actions control the world.

The object of the school is simply to develop in the pupil a proper method of thinking and reasoning a few principles as a foundation upon which he stands to fight his own battles. Upon us individually and collectively hangs the responsibility of the future. As the twig is bent so shall the tree incline.

Let us then lay for the pupil the best possible foundation for young America's future, and we shall in time be amply rewarded and our returns shall be manifold. We shall not only be doing our duty as parents and instructors, but 'twill also be a patriotic work, as upon his shoulders hang the future of our government.

## Executor's Notice.

State of Kansas, ss.  
Barton County, ss.  
In the matter of the estate of Samuel S. Shields, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been granted to the undersigned, on the Last Will and Testament of Samuel S. Shields late of said County, deceased, by the Honorable the Probate Court of the County and State aforesaid, dated the 20th day of January, A. D. 1904. Now, all persons having claim against said Estate, are hereby notified that they must present the same to the undersigned for allowance within one year from the date of said Letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate, and that if such claims be not exhibited within three years after the date of said Letters, they shall be forever barred.

Margaret Shields, Executor of last Will and Testament of Samuel S. Shields, Deceased.  
Great Bend, Kansas, January 23, 1904.

(First published in the DEMOCRAT Jan. 8, 1904.)

## Notice of Final Settlement.

The State of Kansas, ss.  
Barton County, ss.  
In the matter of the estate of John Tromer, Deceased.

Creditors and all other persons interested in the aforesaid Estate are hereby notified that I shall apply to the Probate Court, in and for said County, sitting at the Court House in Great Bend, County of Barton, State of Kansas, on the 1st day of February, A. D. 1904, for a final settlement of said Estate.

JOSEPH T. THOMAS, Administratrix of the Estate of John Tromer, deceased.

Great Bend, Kan., Jan. 6th, A. D. 1904.

(First Published in the DEMOCRAT Jan. 8, 1904.)

## Notice of Appointment-Administrator

The State of Kansas, ss.  
Barton County, ss.

In the matter of the Estate of J. R. Johnson, late of Barton County, Kansas.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT.  
Notice is hereby given, that on the 4th day of January, A. D. 1904, the undersigned was, by the Probate Court of Barton County, Kansas, duly appointed and qualified as Administrator of the estate of J. R. Johnson, late of Barton County, deceased. All parties interested in said estate will take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

THOS. GRIFFITH, Administrator.

(First published in the DEMOCRAT Jan. 8, 1904.)

The State of Kansas,  
To Libbie E. Reed:

You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the district court of Barton County, State of Kansas, by Roy F. Reed, and that you must answer the petition of the said Roy F. Reed on or before the 18th day of February, 1904, or the allegations of the plaintiff's petition will be taken as true, and a judgment will be rendered in the said cause granting to the said plaintiff a divorce from you, the said defendant.

OSMOS & COLE,  
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Great Bend, Kansas, January 6, 1904.

ATTEST: W. B. LUCAS,  
Clerk of said court.

By C. F. YOUNKIN, Deputy Clerk.

43-25

## Drs. Smith & Robinson

....Dentists....

Office over New York Store

Great Bend, - - - Kansas

## IS YOUR

NAME

WRITTEN THERE

Every

Young Man

hopes to live long and become wealthy. And pretty nearly every young man who buys property acquires wealth. To

Buy Land

or houses seems an impossibility to many, but most things come to him who doesn't wait too long.

We can show you the way to turn a little capital to good account. But we can't do it unless you call in and talk it over.

See YOUNG & GILES, Great Bend, Kansas, about this.

## "THE GREAT BIG STORE WITH THE LITTLE PRICES"

# New Goods

We are receiving this week a great many new Spring and Summer Goods. Goods that are right up-to-date in style, and right down low in price. It will pay you as well as it has paid others to visit this big store and take advantage of many of the bargains that we have to offer. It is a good idea to get these new goods when they are new and desirable, and not to wait until they are back numbers. Here you will find the new stuff when you want it and when it is in style.

## In Our Big Dress Goods Dept.

We are showing the very latest in Fancy Voiles, especially the very latest shade, the linen colors, also other handsome shades of blue. These goods are the very latest and are bound to be good sellers. They are extra wide and sell for \$1.25 per yard. In this department we are also showing some very stylish Suitings, all wool, at 50c per yd.

**White Waistings**—This year is going to be a great white year. There will be more white goods worn than ever known before. We have prepared ourselves for this event. We are showing hundreds of patterns in White Waistings that are beauties. The mercerized patterns have the call and they are deserving of all the praise that they receive. Call and see these goods, there will be no trouble in suiting you. Prices range from 25c to \$1.00 per yard.

**New Gingham Still on Sale**—These slightly Gingham that we had on sale last week are still on sale, and we have added several bargains in Gingham carried over from last year.

**Lot 1**—Comprised about 10 pieces good quality Gingham in very pretty plaids, that sold for 8c and could not be bought for that at wholesale today, will go for the small sum of 5c, yd.

**Lot 2**—20 pieces of good desirable patterns in dark and light, stripes and plaids, that sold for 10c, will go in this sale for only 8c.

**Lot 3**—Exactly 25 pieces of some of the prettiest styles ever shown. Made of a very fine cloth, absolutely fast colors, plaids and stripes, in both light and dark colors. A Gingham that always sold for 12c and 15c, and well worth it, will go for 10c.

**Lot 4**—This lot, about 25 pieces, comprises only this season's styles, and are the most beautiful lot of gingham ever brought to Great Bend. There is not a bad pattern in this lot, all new and fresh and all warranted to wash. These are worth 15c per yd. but in this sale they will go for only 12c.

## A Few Little Things That We Save You Money On.

Mentholatum.....25c	The Largest Pencil Tablet in town 5c
Toilet Paper, 6 rolls.....25c	Good Lamp Wicks, 12 for.....5c
10c Ink Tablets.....5c	Williams Shaving Soap.....7c
25 Good White Envelopes.....5c	Pearl Soap, 2 for.....25c
80 Brass Tacks.....5c	10c Counter Book.....5c
500 Good Carpet Tacks.....5c	Spelling Tablets, bound.....5c
5 Boxes D Pointed Tacks.....5c	Filled Pencil Boxes, Lock and Key 5c
10c Tooth Brush.....5c	Men's Talcum Powder.....15c
China Dolls, with hair.....1c	15c Thermometers.....10c
10c Lamp Burners.....7c	Glass Dairy Thermometers.....15c
12 Good Rubber Tip Lead Pencils.....10c	



# Cyclone

Great Bend, Kansas  
Butterick Pattern Agency

## A Card to the Public

Olmitz, Kas., January 4, 1904.

## NOTICE

I have sold my mercantile business at Olmitz to Mr. Franz Riedl, and I desire to hereby thank you cordially for the patronage you have given me and to solicit a continuation of same for Mr. Riedl. I want to settle up all outstanding accounts as fast as possible, and ask all with whom I have accounts to call on me at the bank, where I shall be with the books for settlement.

PETER BRACK.

## THE NEW WAY OF SMOKING MEAT

By applying 2 coats of Wright's Condensed Smoke directly to the meat with a brush after meat has gone through the salt, it will be thoroughly smoked, will have a delicious flavor and will keep solid and sweet and free from insects through the entire summer.

**Wright's Condensed Smoke** is a liquid smoke and contains nothing except what is obtained by burning hickory wood. It is put up in square quart bottles only, each with a metal cap. Never sold in bulk. A bottle will smoke a barrel of meat (200 lbs.) For sale by all druggists @ 75¢. Every bottle guaranteed. Ask druggist for free book "The New Way". The E. H. WRIGHT Co., Ltd., Kansas City, Mo.

Sold and guaranteed by  
THE HOOPER DRUG COMPANY, GREAT BEND, KANSAS